

COUNCIL BRIEFS

February 12, 2016

Design of next phase of Trout Brook Multi-Use Trail underway: The Town has begun the design of the next segment of the Trout Brook Multi-Use Trail. This phase will extend the linear park from its present termination point at Farmington Avenue northward to Asylum Avenue, adding 1.2 miles of paved trail. Trail users will be able to walk, run, or bike directly alongside Trout Brook when the project is completed in late 2017. An informational meeting will be held later in 2016 to seek the public's input and explain the project.

Grand List grows: The 2015 Grand List of taxable property grew by 0.58 percent, or \$34,209,653, for a total of \$5,981,347,789. The breakdown is as follows:

- Real estate list increased by \$28,938,266 or 0.54%. Growth was attributed to new construction and remodeling projects.
- Motor Vehicles list increased \$2,483,267 or .60%.
- Personal Property increased by \$2,788,120 or 1.6%. Growth in this category is attributable to 90 new businesses and new capital purchases.

The Top 10 highest taxpayers are:

1. Sof-Ix Blue Back Square Holdings, LP - \$75,658,380
2. West Farms Mall - \$37,805,390
3. Connecticut Light & Power - \$37,699,280
4. Corbins Corner Shopping Center - \$33,839,820
5. Town Center West Associates - \$24,933,960
6. Bishop's Corner (E&A) LLC - \$18,242,890
7. McAuley Center Inc. - \$17,740,870
8. E&A Northeast Limited Partnership - \$15,498,070
9. Prospect Plaza Improvements, LLC - \$13,994,540
10. Westgate Apartment, LLC - \$13,248,900

Park Road/I-84 (Exit 43) Interchange Improvement Project

- The Town's Engineering Division recently submitted to the State DOT 60% design plans for the reconfiguration of Park Road at the I-84 interchange area to improve intersection capacity, efficiency, and safety. Park Road I-84 interchange and the intersection of Trout Brook Drive are heavily congested, handling over 29,000 vehicles per day.

The design is expected to be completed in the fall of 2016 with construction to begin in spring of 2017. The project is estimated to cost approximately \$5.9 million and will be funded through the Surface Transportation Program. Through this program, 80% of the cost is funded by the Federal government, with the State and Town each providing 10%. Additional information about this project is available at www.westhartfordct.gov/ParkRoad.

New Laser for Traffic Enforcement purchased with grant:

On January 6, 2016 the West Hartford Police Department was awarded a grant from the Walmart Foundation in the amount of \$1,500. The grant was used to purchase a new laser to be used for speed enforcement. The laser was received on February 11, 2016.

The report of speeding is one of the most common complaints among West Hartford residents. This laser will allow West Hartford traffic officers to use the newest technology to enforce speed limits around town.

No Delay in Trash Collection; Town Hall closed: There is no delay in the collection of trash and recyclables on Presidents' Day, Monday, February 15.

Town Hall, school administration offices and libraries will be closed.

Ronald F. Van Winkle
Town Manager